

INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY West Germany

DATE DISTR 30 December 1953

SUBJECT Canalization of the Elbe River

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**SUPPLEMENT TO
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The Magdeburg Operational Section of the VEB Shipping Project Office prepared and submitted for approval to the East German government an opinion on the canalization of the Elbe River which required the construction of 28 canal levels. The experts believed that because of the present technical and financial circumstances the construction of these levels would take 30 years, and that even after the eventual unification of Germany the construction would take 10 to 15 years.

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[redacted] canal levels would be built on the stretch between Miegripp and Barby to divert traffic from the Saale River to the Berlin area via the Elbe River. [redacted] particular attention was given to the Saale River, as the Halle railroad junction, which was an essential traffic center, was overloaded.

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